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by different authors been regarded as a vertebrate, a mollusk, as well as a crustacean, has been greatly needed. Dr. Oscar Hertwig is so excellent a histologist and anatomist, that we may feel sure that this investigation has been made with the same exactitude which has characterized his previous labors on the lower animals. Our knowledge of *Sagitta* had already been greatly extended by the researches of Krohn and Kowalevsky, and owing to the results reached by them, no one now doubts but that *Sagitta* is a worm (Vermes), though its place among the classes of Vermes is uncertain. Hertwig concludes that it agrees best with the Nematodes and Annelides.

WADSWORTH'S GEOLOGICAL PAPERS.¹—These papers by Prof. Wadsworth are, like all the preceding writings of this author, of the most thorough character. He has made the microscopic study of igneous and metamorphic rocks a special study for several years, and by his thoroughness has elevated this department of geology very nearly to an exact science. The first paper, on the geology of Lake Superior, is the most important one, and contains six effective octavo plates, showing the relations of the different kinds of rocks to each other; the dykes, bands of iron ores, jasper veins, felsites, diorites are clearly shown in their relations to each other in the rock masses. Mr. Wadsworth has not relied on the microscope alone, but has given many important chemical analyses of minerals. The historical account of the explorations of others in that region, with the bibliography at the end of the memoirs, is very valuable. We wish we could quote largely from these papers, but space will not permit.—*F. V. H.*

PHYSICAL AND GEOLOGICAL RESULTS OF THE FRENCH EXPEDITION TO OBSERVE THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.²—These beautiful volumes are a portion of the results of the French Expedition to observe the Transit of Venus. The first part deals with the physical results of the expedition, printed in fine clear type with eighteen excellent plates, a portion of them photographic. The

¹ *Notes on the Geology of the Iron and Copper Districts of Lake Superior.* By M. E. Wadsworth. Bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy at Harvard College, Whole Series, Vol. VII. (Geological Series, Vol. 1). pp. 157, with 6 plates.

On the Elongation and Plasticity of Pebbles in Conglomerates. By M. E. WADSWORTH. (From the Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, Vol. XX, Nov. 5, 1879.)

Danialite from the Iron Mine, Bartlett, New Hampshire. By M. E. WADSWORTH.

Picrolite from a Serpentine Quarry in Florida, Mass. By M. E. WADSWORTH.

² *Mission de l'Isle Saint-Paul Observations Astronomiques, opérations photographiques, observations magnetiques et hydrographie.* Institut de France. Académie des Sciences. Recueil de memoires a l'observation du passage de Vénus sur le Soleil. (Extrait du tome II, 1^{re} partie.) 425 pp., 4to, 18 plates and maps.

Recherches Géologiques faites, a Aden, a la Reunion, aux Isles Saint Paul et Amsterdam, aux Seychelles. Par M. CH. VEILAIN, Maître de conférences a la Sorbonne. 460 pp., 4to, 25 plates and maps. (Extrait du tome II, 2^d partie.) Paris, 1879.